Universidad del Este

Recinto Carolina

Short Story:

A Dark Brown Dog

Khloe Santos Flores

Advanced English 126

Prof. Evelyn Lugo

Short Story

Title: A Dark Brown Dog

By: Stephen Crane

Synopsis: One day there was a dog walking around a park and suddenly sees a child all alone. The dog decides to go up to the child and grab his attention. When the child sees the dog he starts to play with him. After a little while the child got tired of playing and walked away from the dog. The dog did not want the child to leave but since he did not stop the dog follows the child all the way home. When they got to the building the child decides that he wants to stay with the dog. When the child’s family gets home they start to fight because they do not want the dog to stay. The child at all times defends the dog and that is when the father of the family decides that the dog gets to stay. The family did not like the idea and that’s why the whole time the dog was living in that house the family abused of him but only when the child wasn’t home because he would let no such thing ocurre. The child was a hero a warrior and a guardian in the dog’s eyes. One day the child and the dog got home after playing, the child’s father was really drunk and abusing of the child’s mother. The boy hides under the table but the dog being new to the family did not know what was going on so he did not hide. When the father sees the dog he starts hitting the dog and then decides that it would be fun to throw the dog out the window and so he does.

Biography: Stephen Crane

(Nov.1, 1871 – June 5, 1900) was an American novelist, short story writer, poet and journalist. Prolitic throughout his short life, he wrote notable works in the realist tradition as well as early examples of American naturalism and impressionism. He is recognized by modern critics as one of the most innovative writers of his generation.

Literary Criticisms:

I consider that the sociological criticism is represented here because the author has maybe in some point of his life seen the abuse of an animal and put himself in the position. This does happen all the time in many families. A lot of people abuse of animals. We have all been present to some kind of abuse towards an animal. Also reader’s response is in this story because as I read it I felt sad of what was happening to the dog it was very cruel. Structuralism in in this story because the reader really gets into the dogs position and understands him. That’s way in my own opinion I consider that that was the authors purpose to make us get into another living creatures position.